WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Steve King (R-IA) today released the following statement in response to the Obama administration's decision to request $500 million in supplemental funding for a newly announced Southwestern border security initiative. In addition to the funding, the Obama administration also proposes the deployment of up to 1,200 National Guardsmen along the 2,000 mile southern border.

"**The President's decision is a symbolic change from his usual unenthusiastic approach to border security** ," said King. "**It's ironic that this announcement comes soon after Mexican President Calderon lectured the United States Congress on immigration policy from the well of the House of Representatives."**

"**If all 1,200 National Guardsmen are deployed, they will represent only a 6.5% increase in personnel assigned to patrol the border. The President has apparently decided to make a symbolic statement about border security. It is a small step, but in the right direction** ."

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